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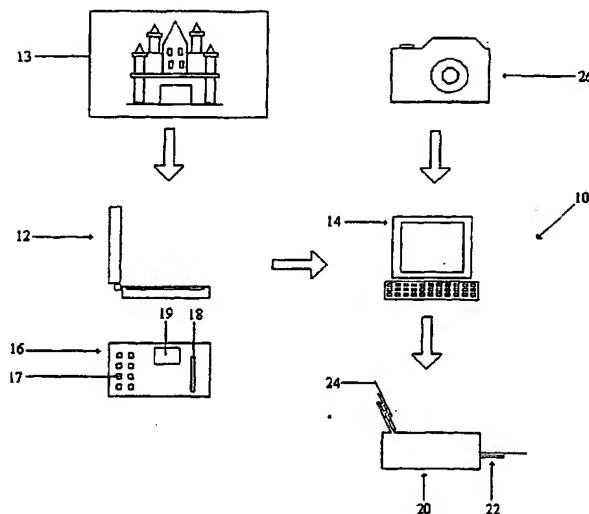
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(54) Title: DIGITAL VENDING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a vending apparatus comprising scanning means for capturing digital images of scanned information, processing means that is connected to the scanning means for receiving digital images therefrom and for processing the digital images, the processing means having software for accessing the Internet and for enabling the transmission of electronic mail including one or more digital images captured by the scanning means, and control means for controlling the operation of the scanning means and the processing means, the control means including a vending unit having payment accepting means for accepting payment means for operating the vending apparatus. The vending apparatus may include a digital camera for capturing the digital images and/or reading means for reading a data storage device of a digital camera.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WO 97 04353 A (G. CHUMBLEY) 6 February 1997 (1997-02-06) abstract; claims; figures	1,2,4, 8-12, 14-16
A	DE 298 22 012 U (P. SOLDNER) 1 April 1999 (1999-04-01) page 3, paragraph 4 -page 6, paragraph 1; claims -/-	1,2,4-6, 8,10-16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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